

Message Text

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21

ACTION EA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-08 NEA-06 DPW-01 H-01 INR-05

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P R 210504Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 9685

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 13419

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, VS

SUBJECT: ICCS IRANIAN NATIONAL DAY RECEPTION

1. A TEMPEST IN A TEA SAUCER MAY BE BREWING AS A RESULT OF SCHEDULING OF THIS YEARS IRANIAN NATIONAL DAY RECEPTION AT THE CARAVELLE HOTEL DOWNTOWN SAIGON RATHER THAN AT TAN SON NHUT AS LAST YEAR. ALTHOUGH GVN THOUGHT IT HAD UNDERSTANDING WITH IRANIANS THAT IT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE TO HAVE RECEPTIONS ELSEWHERE THAN TAN SON NHUT OR THE OLD ICC COMPOUND IF DRV AND "PRGH DELEGATIONS WERE TO BE INVITED, GVN NOW FINDS THAT RECEPTION SCHEDULED FOR CARAVELLE AND DRV AND "PRG" DELEGATIONS HAD BEEN INVITED.

2. FONMIN BAC TOLD AMBASSADOR THAT IN ABSENCE OF AMBASSADOR SADRY, RANKING IRANIAN SECRETARY CALLED TO FONMNN SATURDAY AND TOLD GVN VERY MUCH HOPED IRANDEL WOULD DIS- INVITE DRV AND "PRG" DELEGATIONS. IRANIAN SAID HE WOULD REPORT AND REQUEST INSTRUCTIONS. WHEN AMBASSADOR ASKED WHAT GVN WOULD DO IF IRANIANS REFUSED, BAC SAID GVN WOULD DO NOTHING BUT HE THOUGHT DRV AND "PRG" DELEGATIONS MIGHT HAVE SOME DIFFICULTY IN LEAVING THEIR COMPOUND.

3. GVN VERY MUCH DESIRES NOT TO OFFEND IRANIANS, BUT FEAR PRESENCE OF DRV AND "PRG" DELEGATIONS IN CENTER OF SAIGON WOULD
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PROVIDE IRRESISTIBLE TEMPTATION TO DRV""PRG" DELEGATIONS AND LOCAL PROTEST GROUP TO MANUFACTURE INCIDENT IN PRESENCE OF ENTIRE

DIPLOMATIC CORPS WITH FOREIGN PRESS ALERTED TO GIVE MAXIMUM COVERAGE. WE AGREE THIS A VERY REAL POSSIBILITY.

4. ABOVE FOR INFORMATION EMBASSY TEHRAN FOR BACKGROUND IN CASE IRANIANS BRING MATTER UP. IF GVN AMBASSADOR KY NOT ALREADY INFORMED, EMBASSY MAY WISH TO QUIETLY PASS SUCH OF ABOVE AS IT DEEMS USEFUL.

MARTIN

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